

THE NATIONAL REGISTER.

No 9]

CITY OF WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 26, 1820

[Vol. IX.]

Published, every Saturday, by JONATHAN ELLIOT, at five dollars per annum—payable in advance.

Contents of this No. of the National Register.

ORIGINAL—Editor's Cabinet, 129.

SELECTED—Proceedings of Congress, in the Senate, from the 21st to the 25th of Feb. 130, 131—Treasury Document, in relation to unpaid Bonds 131—Outline of a bill proposing that public lands shall in future be sold for cash only. See. 131—In the House of Representatives, from the 21st Feb. to March 1, abstract of various proceedings, on the Missouri and Maine questions, See. See. 132 to 140—Description of the Baltimore new Exchange, 141—Brief account of a Revolution in Spain, 143—American trade to China—Address to the British legion serving in Venezuela—Poetry—the Season of Lent, 144.

EDITORS' CABINET.

In the *Richmond Enquirer* of the 17th instant, there appeared two extracts of letters, dated at Washington, on the 12th and 15th of this month, in which "the writer speaks freely of Mr. King," and gently rebukes Mr. Ritchie for his vehemence in relation to the Slave Question. In the *Enquirer* of the 19th inst. there is another extract from Washington, dated on the 17th. which says, that "King, of New-York, has made two of the *'weakest, and most factious, and fanatical, speeches ever delivered.'*" Upon this and other information, Mr. Ritchie, the editor of the *Enquirer*, "understands; that, on Tuesday last, Mr. Pinkney tore Mr. King's argument to atoms; and that the Senator from New York was observed to *wince and cower* beneath the *thunders* of his eloquence!"

Now, all this may do very well at Richmond; where, we presume, to propagate any thing against slaveholding, is sufficient to draw down, at any time, "one general burst of reprobation." But here, at Washington although it is a slave country, and the question has not entirely fair play, the affair is viewed in rather a different light.

The writer who speaks so *freely* of Mr. King, attributes to him sinister motives—motives of ambition, and the like. Does not the *ambition*, however, lie in a different direction? It is not the *slaveholders* who are loth to part with power? The slaveholding states have so long enjoyed the political supremacy, heretofore derivable from the principle of the three fifths of the slave population, that they wish to extend and perpetuate that unjust advantage. Allow more slave states, and they would combine with the slave states already existing, upon the common basis of slavery. Ever since the formation of the present Constitution the slave state have generally clung together, with Virginia at their head; and Virginia has been greatly benefitted by this adhesion. It is for *Virginians* to talk of *ambition*, forsooth! Mr.

King has vindicated the cause of the *white race*; of the *blood of the whites*. The Virginians would do the same, if they were not impelled by *avarice and ambition* to sustain the slave population which surrounds them. Mr. King has ably advocated the cause of humanity and the maxims of the Gospel. He has not appealed to the passions. He does not seek to put himself in the place of Jupiter, to speak in a voice of "thunder." He refers to facts; he appeals to the principles of the constitution; and by the serenity of his manner baffles the efforts of noisy declaimers. It is not in the elevation or depression of his *voice* that his argument is to be found; but in the *truth* of his remarks and the *clearness* of his expressions. Mr. King is, emphatically, a *wise* man; and with him the age of political foppery and oratorical flourishing has passed away. Yet he is an agreeable speaker; and even in that particular, there are few that surpass him.

These encomiums, extorted from us by the ungenerous criticisms of writers who have attempted to disparage him, will be justified by those who have had the pleasure of hearing him speak; by those who have read his speech of last session, and by those who may read his speech of the present session, on the slave question.

So far was Mr. Pinkney from having torn Mr. King's argument to *atoms* on Tuesday last, or on any other day, in the opinion of cool and competent judges in this city, he did not make a single breach in it; and we will venture to say that it is impossible to refute it.

Of Mr. Pinkney's alleged *eloquence*, we have been slow to speak. We respect his talents. But in what do they consist? Certainly not in his elocution. He has not the least pretension to the character of an orator. Oratory is the grace of action, the ease, distinctness, and harmony of enunciation, in the delivery of a speech. In all these Mr. Pinkney is extremely defective. His real talents are to be found in a strong conception of his subject, and a logical management of it. In the present case he is on the wrong side; and no conception or logic can, among enlightened men, make that appear right which is palpably wrong. The man of all others eminently entitled to rank, in the Congress of the United States, as an orator, is Mr. John Randolph; and we doubt whether there is an individual, either in Europe or America, who is in that respect, superior to him.

1st SESSION—16th CONGRESS.
IN SENATE,

MONDAY, FEB. 21.

Mr. SANFORD, from the committee on finance, made a detailed unfavorable report on the petitions of sundry merchants of Savannah, who pray a remission of duties which have accrued on goods destroyed by the late fire in that city. The report was read, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. ELLIOT communicated an act of the Legislature of Georgia, to grant certain powers to the commissioners of pilotage for the port of Darien, and to collect a tonnage duty on vessels, for certain purposes, which was read and referred.

The President communicated the report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the petition of Jacob Barker, and it was, on motion of Mr. Sanford, referred to the committee of claims.

The Senate took up the bill for continuing for a limited time the present charter of the city of Washington, and having amended the same by extending its continuance to March 3, 1821, (unless sooner repealed,) the bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Mr. WILSON submitted a motion to instruct the post-office committee to enquire into the expediency of allowing to the President of the Senate pro tempore, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, for the time being, the privilege of franking, as at present by law enjoyed by the Vice President of the United States; adjourned.

TUESDAY, FEB. 22.

Mr. WILLIAMS, of Tenn. from the committee on Military Affairs, made an unfavorable report on the memorial of the Legislature of Indiana, respecting compensation to Captain Bigger's company of Rangers; (which report was concurred in on the following day.)

The report of the committee of Claims, unfavorable to the petition of Theron Freeman, was taken up and agreed to.

The report of the Military committee, unfavorable to the petition of Edward Baker, praying compensation for an improvement in gun locks, was taken up and agreed to.

The report of the Judiciary committee, unfavorable to the petition of Mare Marie Duplat, was also taken up and agreed to.

The motion of Mr. WILSON, of yesterday, referring an enquiry to the Post-Office committee, was considered and adopted.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill making further provision for the sale of the Public Lands, which was, on consideration, postponed till to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 23.

Mr. KING, of N. Y. presented a memorial from major Andrew Jackson, commander of the south division of the army, relative to the report made by a committee of the Senate, at the last session, respecting the conduct of the Seminole war, which memorial was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. WILLIAMS, of Tenn. from the committee on military affairs, made a report on the petition of col Robert Purdy, late of the army, accompanied by a bill (directing the repayment to him of a judgment and costs recovered against him for the imprisonment of a certain Wm. Luty;) which was read.

Mr. SANFORD, from the Committee of finance, reported a bill for the relief of Walter Channing

(for the repayment to him of certain duties on sale petre;) which was read.

Mr. VAN DYKE, from the committee on pensions, made an unfavorable report on the petition of Richard Butler, Zalman Barritt, Barnard Wooden, Samuel Bailey, Wm. White, and John Fenton; which was read.

Mr. STOKES, from the committee on the post-office, reported a bill conferring on the President of the Senate pro tempore, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the privilege of franking to the same extent as the Vice-President of the United States; which bill was read.

The Senate took up the following resolutions, offered by Mr. JONSSON of Ky yesterday:

Resolved, That the committee on roads and canals be instructed to enquire into the expediency of authorizing the appropriation of forty thousand dollars, for the purpose of co-operating with the states of Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Kentucky, and Indiana, to improve the navigation of the Ohio river.

Resolved, That the committee on roads and canals be instructed to enquire into the expediency of authorizing the President of the United States to subscribe for 1000 shares of the capital stock of the Kentucky Ohio Canal Company, according to the 7th section of the act of the Kentucky Legislature, entitled "An act to amend an act, approved January 30, 1818, entitled an act to incorporate the Kentucky Ohio Canal Company."

The resolutions were adopted.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the report of the committee of claims unfavorable to the petition of Joseph McNeil.

On the motion of Mr. JONSSON, of Louisiana who advocated at some length the justice of the claim of the petitioner, which was also supported by Mr. Brown, and opposed by Mr. Roberts, the report was reversed, by a vote of 19 to 9, and the committee was instructed to report a bill for the relief of the petitioner.—Adjourned.

THURSDAY, FEB. 24.

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of the report of the committee of finance, on the petitions of Andrew Low and others, merchants of Savannah, who pray for a remission of duties paid and secured to be paid on a large amount of imported goods which were consumed and destroyed by the late fire in that city. In general, the government has refused to remit the payment of duties in such cases. Relief has, however, in a very few such cases, been granted; but, in extraordinary cases—such, for example, as the goods being in the custody of the officers of the United States, to secure the payment of duties. The report concludes an argument of some length by recommending the adoption of a resolution "that it is inexpedient to grant the prayer of the petitioners."

Mr. ELLIOT, of Georgia, moved to amend the report by substituting the following resolution for that report by the committee:

"Resolved, That the report be recommended to the committee on finance, with instructions to report a bill authorizing the remission of 25 per cent. on all bonds due, or becoming due, at the Custom House of Savannah, in Georgia, executed for the payment of duties on imported goods, wares, and merchandize, not insured against fire, and which have been destroyed by the late fire in that city—and extending the additional credit of two years on such bonds."

This amendment was earnestly supported by Mr. Elliot, and Mr. Walker, of Georgia.

The whole subject was then, on motion of Mr. Roberts, postponed to to-morrow.

The engrossed bill for the relief of Bowie and Kurtz, and others, was read a third time, passed, and sent to the House of Representatives for concurrence.

The bill making further provision for the sale of the Public Lands (changing the terms of sale from credit to cash) was taken up, and the amendment proposed yesterday by Mr. Walker, of Alabama, was, after some discussion, withdrawn by him, in order to be offered again on a future occasion.

Mr. EDWARDS offered the following amendment:

And be it further enacted, That every person who now is, or hereafter may be, an actual *bona fide* settler upon any quarter section of land which shall have been previously exposed to Public Sale, and remain unsold, shall be permitted to purchase such quarter section in the same manner and on such terms as are now authorized by law.

After considerable discussion on this and the preceding amendment (which shall also be hereafter reported) in which Messrs Walker, of Alabama, Otis, King, of New York, Lowrie, Walker, of Georgia, of Alabama, Macon, Ruggles, Edwards, Leake, Smith, and Johnson, of Louisiana, took part.

The subject was then postponed to to-morrow.

Mr. SMITH, from the Judiciary committee, made unfavorable reports on the petitions of John Bioren and Fielding Lucas, jr. and of John Bioren and Edward DeKraff, respectively inviting the patronage of Congress to a Volume of the laws of the United States, and to the Journal of the old Congress, which they propose to republish:—adjourned.

FRIDAY, FEB. 25.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the report of the committee of Finance, on the memorial of sundry sufferers by the late fire at Savannah, praying a remission of duties on goods destroyed, &c. and of the motion relative thereto, made by Mr. ELLIOT, of Georgia, as above stated.

This motion was further supported by Mr. Elliot and Mr. Walker, of Alabama, and opposed by Mr. Barbour and Mr. Macon.

The question thereon being taken, it was decided in the affirmative, by 21 votes to 18.

On motion of Mr. BURRILL, the Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the Maine Bill.

The question being on the motion of Mr. BURRILL, (not Mr. Burrill, as heretofore stated,) to RECESS from the amendments of the Senate, which embrace provisions for the admission of Missouri, and for excluding slaves from the Territories:—

A discussion arose on a point of order, respecting the division of this question, (as yesterday directed) so as to separate the question respecting Missouri from that respecting the Territories: it being contended by Mr. Burrill, that the whole amendment was an unit, the second part depending on the first, and therefore indivisible.

The President, (Mr. Gallard,) availed himself of a rule of the Senate, to submit the question to the decision of the Senate. And, after debate, in which Messrs. Burrill, Otis, Barbour, Walker, of Alabama, Lowrie, Macon, Roberts, King, of N. Y. Smith, and Morrill, took part, the question apparently becoming more difficult in the course of the discussion, it was at length determined, on the third trial, that the further consideration of the subject be postponed to to-morrow.

The Senate again proceeded to the consideration of the Message from the House of Representatives disagreeing to the amendment of this body to the bill for the admission of Maine into the Union [This amendment embraces nine sections, the first eight of which contain provisions for the admission of Missouri into the Union; the 9th prohibits the further introduction of slavery into the Territories of the United States.]

The Question of Order on the susceptibility of division, of a question on a motion to recess, so as to take it separately and successively on each part, being yet under consideration, Mr. Otis, Mr. Burrill, and Mr. Morrill, successively spoke briefly on the question; when, on motion of Mr. Johnson, of Ky. the Senate adjourned.

The following letter was communicated from the Secretary of the Treasury, to the Senate, during yesterday's sitting:

Treasury Department, 23d Feb. 1830.

Sir: In obedience to a resolution of the Senate, of the 14th of February, 1819, directing that "the Secretary of the Treasury lay before the Senate, as early in the next session as practicable, an abstract of all bonds for duties, on merchandise imported into the United States, which shall have become payable and remain unpaid on the 30th day of September next, exhibiting in each abstract the date of such bond and the time when it became payable, its amount, names of the obligors, distinguishing principals from sureties, and the district of the customs in which created," together with such information as will show how much or what parts of such bonds are irrecoverable and lost to the United States," I have the honor to submit statements A, B, C, and D, and a letter from the Register of the Treasury presenting the general result of statements A and D. From the latter statement it appears that the amount of revenue which has accrued from the customs from the commencement of the present government to the end of the year 1819, is estimated at \$361,325,799 53.—From statement A, it appears that the amount of revenue lost, by the insolvency of persons who became bound for the payment of duties, is estimated at \$1,437,355 64, and that which is doubtful, at the sum of \$290,867 20. These sums together, are not quite equal to 45-100 of one per cent. upon the aggregate revenue, which has accrued since the organization of the present government. Statement B shows the amount which is estimated to have been lost to the government by the misconduct of officers employed in the collection of the revenue arising from imports and tonnage. Statement C exhibits the amount of loss from the collectors of the internal revenue and direct tax, and receivers of public moneys. These sums form an aggregate amount nearly equal to that which is exhibited in statement A. Documents from 1 to 71, inclusive, contain abstracts of the bonds put in suit in the several collection districts of the United States.

It was intended to have presented a statement of the sums which are estimated to have been lost by the misapplication of the public money by the officers of the government employed in disbursing it; but it has been ascertained that the statement cannot be prepared during the present session of Congress. There can, however, be no doubt that the losses arising from this source greatly exceed those which have been incurred in the collection.

I have the honor to be your most obedient servant,

W. M. H. CRAWFORD,

The honorable the President of the Senate.

OUTLINE of the BILL, making further provision for the sale of Public Lands.

[The first section of this bill provides, that, from and after the — day of — next, all the public lands of the United States, the sale of which is, or may be authorized by law, shall, when offered at public sale, to the highest bidder, be offered in half quarter sections; and when offered at private sale may be purchased, at the option of the purchaser, either in entire sections, half sections, quarter sections, or half quarter sections; and in every case of the division of a quarter section, the line for the division thereof shall be run north and south, and the corners and contents of half quarter sections, which may thereafter be sold, shall be ascertained in the manner, and on the principles, prescribed by the second section of an act, "concerning the mode of surveying the public lands of the United States," passed on the eleventh of February, 1805; and fractional sections containing 163 acres, or upwards,

shall, in like manner, as nearly as practicable, be subdivided into half-quarter sections, under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury; but fractional sections, containing less than one hundred and sixty acres, shall not be divided, but shall be sold entire: Provided, That this section shall not be construed to alter any special provision made by law for the sale of land in town lots.

The second section provides, that credit shall not be allowed for the purchase money on the sale of any of the public lands which shall be sold after the — day of — next, shall, on the day of purchase, make complete payment therefor; and the purchaser at private sale shall produce to the register of the land office, a receipt from the Treasurer of the United States, or from the receiver of public moneys of the district, for the amount of the purchase money on any tract, before he shall enter the same at the land office; and if any person, being the highest bidder, at public sale, for a tract of land, shall fail to make payment therefor, on the day on which the same was purchased, the tract shall be again offered at public sale, on the next day of sale, and such person shall not be capable of becoming the purchaser of that or any other tract offered at such public sales.

The third section provides that, from and after the — day of — next, the price at which the public lands shall be offered for sale, shall be one dollar and — cents an acre, and at every public sale, the highest bidder, who shall make payments as aforesaid, shall be purchaser; but no lands shall be sold, either at public or private sale, for a less price than one dollar and — cents an acre; and provides what shall be the price at which the unsold lands which have been offered at public sale, shall be sold at private sale.

Section fourth provides that, no lands which have reverted, or which shall hereafter revert or become forfeited to the United States for failure in any manner to make payment, shall, after the — day of — next, be subject to entry at private sale, nor until the same shall have been first offered to the highest bidder at public sale; and all such lands which shall have reverted before the said — day of — next, and which shall then belong to the United States, together with the sections and parts of sections, heretofore reserved for the future disposal of Congress, which shall, at the time aforesaid, remain unsold, shall be offered at public sale to the highest bidder, who shall make payment therefor, in half-quarter sections, at the land office for the respective districts on such day or days as shall, by proclamation of the President of the United States, be designated for that purpose, &c.

[The remaining sections and clauses embrace provisions, &c.]

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FEBRUARY 21.

Mr. RHEA, from the committee on pensions and revolutionary claims, made unfavorable reports on the petitions of Hezekiah West, and of Daniel Goodwin, executor of Benjamin; the first of which was ordered to lie on the table, and the latter was concurred in by the house.

Mr. WILLIAMS, of N. C. from the committee of claims, reported a bill for the relief of Daniel Converse, of Ohio; which was twice read and committed.

Mr. SERGEANT, from the committee on the judiciary, reported a bill to alter the place of holding

the circuit and districts courts of the Ohio district; which was twice read, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading to-morrow. [This bill provides for holding these courts at Columbus, the seat of government of that state.]

Mr. SMITH, from the military committee, made an unfavorable report on the petition of John B. Smith and Ezra H. Bemiss; which was concurred in by the house.

Mr. SMITH, of Virginia, in pursuance of instruction from the committee on military affairs, moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the President be requested to cause to be prepared and submitted to Congress a system of regulations for the government of the Military Academy at West Point.

This proposition gave rise to some conversation. Mr. Anderson did not conceive it to propose a usual or proper course of proceeding: it was the duty of the President to execute the law, but of this house to devise and frame it, &c. Mr. Culpepper expressed substantially the same sentiment. Mr. S. Parker said the President had already, in a recent case, decided that the Academy should be under the government of martial law; if the military committee was of a different opinion, they ought so specifically to report. Mr. Cannon suggested that it might be found necessary to abolish this Academy—he being of that opinion; and he desired therefore a particular enquiry and report upon the subject by a committee of this house. Mr. Little opposed the recommitment which was proposed; but wished to modify the proposition so as to call on the Secretary of War instead of the President, to report upon the subject. Mr. Foot was in favor of recommitment, and expressed his wish for further information and enquiry on the subject.

The result was that, on motion of Mr. RHEA, the proposition was recommitment to the committee on military affairs, with instruction to report to this house a system of regulation for the government of the Academy.

OUR AFFAIRS WITH SPAIN.

Mr. REID, of Georgia, submitted for consideration the following resolution:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to impart to this House any communications touching the Florida Treaty, which may have been received from our Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Spain, which have not been heretofore communicated, [and which, in his opinion, it may not be inconsistent with the public interest to communicate.]

The concluding clause was adopted with the consent of the mover, on the suggestion of Mr. Taylor, of New-York.

Mr. COOKE moved to extend the scope of the motion to communications from any other sources than our Minister in Spain.

Mr. REID objecting to the form of the proposed amendment, rather than to its object—

Mr. COOKE moved to lay the proposition on the table:

Which motion was carried, 65 to 62.

The bill from the Senate confirming Anthony Cavalier and Peter Pettit in their claim to a tract of land, was read the third time and passed.

Mr. McCOR moved the consideration of the resolution offered by Mr. COOKE, of Illinois, on the 17th inst. in relation to the bounty lands lying in Illinois, promised by the state of Virginia to Col. Clarke's

regiment, in the revolutionary war. His motion to consider was lost by a large majority.

The house then resumed, in committee of the whole, Mr. BALDWIN in the chair, the consideration of this bill and the proposed amendment.

Mr. PLUMER, of New Hampshire, rose and spoke in favor of the Restriction.

Mr. Edwards, of Connecticut, followed on the same side, and spoke about half an hour; when the mittee rose, and—adjourned.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22.

Mr. LOWMEDE offered the following resolution for consideration:

Resolved, That the committee on naval affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of extending to the widow of Captain Oliver H. Perry the provision which is now made by law for the widows and children of naval officers who die from wounds received in action.

Mr. L. observed that it was conceived that the family of commodore Perry was embraced by the existing laws which provide for pensions, as it was not to be supposed the generosity or magnanimity of Congress did not intend to comprehend such a case; but as this appeared to be doubted, he had deemed it proper to propose the inquiry which he had submitted.

The resolution was adopted *nem. con.*

Mr. RANDOLPH rose to offer a motion. He believed it would be very difficult for any member of this House—certainly it was not possible for him—to keep pace with the honourable gentleman from South Carolina, (Mr. Lowmède) in the race of honor and public utility. That gentleman had, by the motion which had just been adopted, anticipated him, in part, in a proposition which he (Mr. R.) had intended on this particular day, for reasons which would suggest themselves to the mind of every one, to offer to the House. When he had this morning heard the tower guns announcing the return of the birth day of Washington, Mr. R. said the thought, had come across his mind that, if this question was put to those who have honor in their mouths and money in their pockets, it would be curious to see how it would be received. His purpose was, Mr. R. stated, to make a motion in relation to the wife and children of Oliver H. Perry. It was his opinion, Mr. R. said, whether correct or not, that the country owed more to that man, in its late contest with G. Britain, than to any other whatever, with the exception of Isaac Hull—that man who had first broken the steel plate, the cuirass of British invincibility. He had frequently, Mr. R. said, heard persons of that country speak in terms of admiration of the achievement of Capt. Hull—in his escape from a fleet of the enemy, in the Constitution frigate—of the admirable seamanship which he had displayed—of his professional skill; but he had never heard any of them speak with satisfaction of his achievement with the Guerrier, which had carried her name, in defiance, emblazoned in large letters on her sails. That was an event on which they were generally silent. Mr. R. believed that old England would consent that forty Packenham, with all their legions, should have been buried in the alluvial lands of the Mississippi, to take back the single action of the Guerrier; because that action had done more than any thing else to open the eyes of Europe. It was not inferior in lustre to any event in her history, except only that of La Hogue, under Admiral Russel. Next in glory to the victory over the Guerrier, was that on

Lake Erie, by the gallant Perry. One had shewn us the way to victory with single ships, the other with fleets. Shall we, said Mr. R. suffer his family to melt up the plate that was given to him by his countrymen, in compliment to his gallantry, to buy bread? He would say no more, but at once offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That provision be made by law for the support of the family of the late Oliver Hazard Perry, Esq. of the United States' navy, and for the education of his children.

Mr. LOWMEDE concurred with great cordiality in Mr. R's resolution. He felt in its fullest force the sentiment of gratitude to the man who had first taught his country to hope for victory by fleets, as well as by single ships; and Mr. L. said it was only because he had supposed that the house would not at this time give its approbation to a proposition such as Mr. Randolph had offered, and that he had contented himself with the very inferior one which he had submitted.

Mr. HAZARD, of Rhode-Island, did not rise to say much on a subject, which he said he could scarcely trust himself to speak on at all. But he rose to offer his thanks to the gentleman from Virginia and the gentleman from South Carolina, in behalf of the name of Perry—to thank them in behalf of the state which gave him birth; to thank them in the name of his amiable widow; to thank them in the name of their common country.

The resolution was adopted; and, on motion of Mr. Randolph, a committee of three was appointed to bring in a bill.

On motion of Mr. STORRS, it was

Resolved, That the Secretary of the War Department be directed to transmit to this House copies of the respective contracts heretofore made with James Johnson, Alexander M'Rea, Elias Earl, and Peter Townsend, for the delivery of powder, arms, cannon, or shot, together with an account of the monies advanced on the said contract respectively, and at what periods, and whether and how far the said contracts have been respectively fulfilled on the part of the contractors.

The engrossed bill to alter the place of holding the Circuit and District Courts of Ohio, from Chillicothe to Columbus, the seat of government, of the State, was read the third time.

Mr. BESCHER explained the motives for this bill—the unanimous wish of the Legislature; the public convenience, &c.

Mr. BRUSH replied to Mr. Beecher, and argued to shew that the bill was inexpedient, at this time, at least; that it would be a burthen to suitors, witnesses, &c. and would increase the labor of the Judges, by extending their journey, &c. without benefitting the community. To give time to produce information to the House on the subject, he moved that the bill be laid on the table.

Mr. ROSS and Mr. CAMPBELL replied and supported the bill; after which, the question was taken on laying the bill on the table, and negatived; and the bill was then passed, and sent to the Senate for concurrence.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 23.

The House resumed the consideration of the amendments of the Senate to the Maine Bill. The amendments having been read, Mr. RANDOLPH spoke against the feature of the amendments of the Senate.

Mr. REEA commenced a speech; but, from the lateness of the hour, on motion, the House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 23.

The House resumed the consideration of the amendments of the Senate to the bill for the admission of Maine into the Union.

Mr. RICE spoke about an hour on the subject, particularly on the inapplicability of the ordinance of 1787 to the territory west of the Mississippi.

The question on *disagreeing* to the Senate's amendments was divided, on motion of Mr. TAYLOR, so as to take first the sense of the House, substantially, on the question of disagreeing to the union of the Missouri bill with that of Maine, and the question was decided by yeas and nays, as follows:

For disagreeing to the union of the two bills.

Messrs. Adams, Allen, Mass. Allen, N. Y. Beecher, Boden, Brush, Buffum, Butler, N. H. Campbell, Case, Clagett, Cook, Crafts, Cushman, Darlington, Dennison, Dewitt, Dickinson, Dowse, Eddy, Edwards, C. B. Edwards, Don. Ev. Folger, Forrest, Fuller, Fullerton, Gross, N. Y. Gross, Penn. Guyon, Hackley, Hall, N. Y. Hazard, Hemphill, Hendricks, Horrick, Hibshman, Hill, Holmes, Hostetter, Kendall, Kinsey, Kinsley, Lathrop, Lincoln, Linn, Livermore, Lyman, MacLay, McLane, Del. Malley, Marchand, Mason, Meech, R. Moore, S. Moore, Monell, Mosely, Murray, Nelson, Va. Parker, Mass. Patterson, Phelps, Philson, Pitcher, Plumer, Rich, Richards, Richmond, Rogers, Ross, Sampson, Sergeant, Silsbee, Sloan, Smith, N. J. Southard, Stevens, Storrs, Str. et, Strong, Vt. Strong, N. Y. Tarr, Taylor, Tomlinson, Tompkins, Tracy, Upham, Van Rensselaer, Wallace, Wendover, Whitman, Wood—53.

Against the union of the two bills.

Messrs. Abbott, Alexander, Allen, of Tenn. Anderson, Archer, Md. Archer, Va. Baldwin, Ball, Barbour, Bayly, Bloomfield, Brevard, Brown, Brynn, Burton, Burrill, Butler, Lou. Cannon, Cobb, Cooke, Crawford, Culpepper, Cuthbert, Davidson, Earle, Edwards, N. C. Ervin, Fisher, Floyd, Garnett, Hardin, Hooks, Johnson, Jones, Va. Jones, Tenn. Kent, Little, Lowndes, McCoy, McCreary, McLean, Ken. Meigs, Mercer, Metcalf, Neale, Newton, Overstreet, Parker, Va. Pinckney, Rankin, Reed, Rhea, Ruggold, Settle, Shaw, Simkins, Slocumb, Smith, Md. B. Smith, Va. A. Smyth, Va. Smith, N. C. Strother, Swearingen, Terrell, Trimble, Tucker, Va. Tucker, S. C. Tyler, Walker, N. C. Warfield, Williams, Va. Williams, N. C.—74.

The House disagreed to that amendment of the Senate which proposed to annex the Missouri bill to the Maine bill.

The question was then taken on disagreeing to the residue of the amendments of the Senate, (the details of the Missouri bill) with the exception of that which embraces what is familiarly called the compromise amendment, and decided also by yeas and nays, in the affirmative, as follows:

For disagreeing	102
Against it	68

The question was next taken on disagreeing to the 9th and last section of the amendments of the Senate, (being that which proposes to exclude slavery from all the territory west of the Mississippi, and north of 36° 30' north latitude, excepting within the limits of the proposed state of Missouri;) and was decided by yeas and nays, in the affirmative, as follows:

For disagreeing	159
Against it	18

Thus the House rejected all the amendments of the Senate to the Maine bill.

THURSDAY, FEB. 24.

The Speaker laid before the House, a report from the Secretary of the Treasury made in obedience to the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 1st of March, 1819, "directing him to transmit to Congress at an early period in the next session, a general statement of the condition of the Bank of the United States, and its offices similar to the return made to him by the Bank, and a statement exhibiting as nearly as may be practicable, the amount of capital, invested in the different chartered banks in the several states, and the District of Columbia; the amount of notes issued and in circulation; the public and private deposits

in them; the amount of loans and discounts made by them and remaining unpaid, and the total quantity of specie; and also, to report such measures as in his opinion, may be expedient to procure and retain a sufficient quantity of gold and silver coin in the United States, or to supply a circulating medium, in place of specie, adapted to the exigencies of the country and within the power of the government;" which was ordered to lie on the table.

The Speaker also laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of War, enclosing a report of the third Auditor of the Treasury and of the Commissary General of Subsistence, in relation to "the expense of furnishing the army with rations for one year ending on the 14th of April, 1818, exhibiting the average cost per ration, and also the average cost per ration for one year, under the provisions of the act of the 14th April, 1818, entitled "an act to regulate the staff of the army," rendered in obedience to the resolution of the House of the 17th day of December last; which was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. RANDOLPH rose to make a motion; which, he said, he should very much prefer to have made by any other member than himself, but which he felt it to be his duty to bring forward; and he trusted that, whatever others might think, he should never feel a disposition to shrink from the discharge of his duty. It was impossible, Mr. R. continued, for any man to see what was going on here—abuse heaped upon abuse, like Pelion upon Ossa, until it was impossible to tell where it would end—it threatened to reach the skies. This House, he said, was emphatically entrusted with the purse-strings of the nation. He hoped it would not prove to be the case that the people had, according to a well known maxim of law, trusted the lamb to the custody of the wolf. He had said, this House was entrusted with the purse-strings of the nation; and it behoved it, as the grand inquest of the nation, also to enquire into abuses of every description, but first to pluck the beam from its own eye before it attempted to take out the mote from its brother's eye. It had been his misfortune, Mr. R. said, especially since the agitation of this Missouri question, not to be able to "sleep o' nights," and he consequently often rose before day break. These early risings had been the means of putting him on the scent—he was not sure, of the true game—but of something like speculation, or abuses, in a very small way—in the contingent expenses of this House. It behoves us, said Mr. R. as the guardians of this imperium in imperio, if we are arraigned at the public bar—much more if we arraign others—that we appear with clean hands—that there be no blot or stain upon them. In the course of my lucubrations, I have sometimes started a question which, although we may approximate to the truth, is as impossible to be ascertained as the quadrature of the circle; and will no doubt be discovered with the solution of that opprobrium of geometry, with the philosopher's stone, the perpetual motion, or the grand arcanum—the *Elixir Vitæ* itself—when men shall quaff—immortality and joy—or rather misery—for death, sir, with all his terrors, is our best friend if we know how to use life, and comes to deliver us from the vexation and strife of this trumpery world. I have, continued Mr. R. endeavored to ascertain the pay of a member of Congress; but, with all the means I have used, it has eluded my search, and will continue so to do, I have no doubt, to the end. Those who write circular letters, and keep up a voluminous

correspondence, and those who receive more letters than others, receive, through the privilege of franking and stationery, a greater compensation than others.

Mr. R. said he would mention one fact to show how it is the nature of abuse to grow on what it feeds on—and it may be ominous, it may "cut love"—they had made him, for the first time in 20 years, a present, at this session, of a knife; and he believed he should carry it home as a *spolia opima*, and hand it down as a trophy of his public service of some twenty years, nearly fourteen of which—just double the time, Mr. R. said, that Jacob had served for Rachel—had been spent in opposition to what is called Government—for he commenced his political apprenticeship in the ranks of opposition; and could he add fourteen more to them, he supposed some political Laban would double his servitude, and condemn him to toil in the barren field of opposition: for he despaired of seeing any man elected President whose conduct he should entirely approve—he should never be in favor at court, as he had, somehow, as great an alacrity at getting into a minority as honest Jack Falstaff had at sinking. It was perhaps the place he was best fitted for, Mr. R. said as he had not strength to encounter the details and drudgery of business—habit had rendered it familiar to him; and, after all, it was not without its sweets as well as its bitters, since it involved the glorious privilege of finding fault—one very dear to the depraved condition of poor human nature.

But in relation to the contingent fund of this House, said Mr. R. when he had the honour of belonging to the committee of Ways and Means, they were so incessantly pestered with accounts for candles, and wood, and molasses and water, and what not, that at last, at his suggestion, committee was raised expressly to audit and settle the accounts of the contingent expenses of this House. People were constantly coming to that committee and complaining that they could not get paid, although the clerk showed their receipts in full. They were asked how was this? And were answered by these men, that they were obliged to give receipts in full to the clerk, before they could get their contracts, and then he would not pay them, it being a personal engagement of his own. They were told by the committee that it was an affair between themselves and the clerk—that they had bought the contracts by letting the clerk have the use of their money, and if their sweet turned out a sour, they must make the best of a bargain creditable to neither party, and made at our as well as their expense. Whether or not they ever got paid, Mr. R. did not know. He knew that that clerk was a public defaulter, and he was not sure the balance due by him had been paid. Mr. R. cast no imputation on the present clerk. The abuse to which he referred, was not under his control. Mr. R. then read the resolution, as follows:

Ordered, That the clerk do prepare and lay before this House, a statement of the annual amount of the contingent expenses thereof, from the commencement of the present government, to the 30th of November last; distinguishing the expense of stationery, printing, fuel, lights, furniture, attendants, and their assistants; with a statement of the amount and nature of the perquisites of each.

Mr. R. wished the accounts of the present session kept separate, for they would, he thought, constitute a curiosity, a volume in themselves.

This, it would be observed, was not a joint resolution. He deemed too reverently of the honor of the other body, and knew too well what was due to comity and courtesy between the two houses, to meddle with their affairs. Let them manage the affairs in their own way, said Mr. R.: it is a maxim very dear to me on other subjects, (meaning the Missouri question, it was understood) as well as this. [The resolution was agreed to.]

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of War, transmitting a Report from the Engineer Department, respecting the rules for the government of the Military Academy, &c. in obedience to a resolution of this House of the 26th of Feb. 1819.

Mr. Cook, of Illinois, submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee on Public Lands be instructed to inquire into the expediency of enabling those soldiers of the late war who are entitled to a land bounty, and have not received the same, to obtain certificates in lieu thereof, for such sum as may be deemed reasonable, making such certificates receivable in payment for public lands offered for sale by the U. States.

The question was then put whether the House would now consider the resolution, and it was determined in the negative.

The Speaker having announced the orders of the day—

Mr. Hill, of Mass. rose, and, said he did not now wish to consume the time of the House upon a subject, the progress of which seemed to be stamped with all the marks of eternity. But he rose, merely to move that the committee of the whole be discharged from any further consideration of the Missouri bill.

Mr. Lowndes said, that if the gentleman from Massachusetts insisted upon his motion being put, he would cheerfully vote in favor of it; yet, if he would consent to withdraw his motion for the present, to give two or three gentlemen more, an opportunity to speak to-day, he thought it might be a saving of time, and the motion could be renewed again, if necessary, to-morrow morning, which would then, he thought, receive a decided support.

Mr. Hill acquiesced in this suggestion, and withdrew his motion.

The House then again went into a committee of the whole, on this bill, Mr. Cobb in the chair.

Mr. Eakin, from S. C. took the floor, and spoke against the restriction. Mr. Scott, of Missouri, next rose and spoke on the same side. Mr. Mayes, of N. Y. spoke sometime also against the restriction. Mr. Adams, of Mass. made a few remarks in favor of the restriction; and Mr. Tucker, of Vir. spoke against the amendment. When he had concluded—

Mr. Smith, of Md. rose and observed, that a large number of his constituents had expressed their opinion in opposition to the opinion which he was known to entertain on this subject, and it might be presumed that he desired to deliver his reasons for the vote which he should give. But Mr. S. said the public business was suffering by the protraction of the debate: the members are weary of it, every one's opinion was made up on it; and he was unwilling to consume the time of the committee by any remarks on the question. He therefore forbore, and he hoped the question would be taken.

Mr. Walker, of N. Carolina, rose then to address the committee on the question; but the ques-

tion was called for so clamorously and so perseveringly, that Mr. W. could proceed no farther than to move that the committee rise.

The committee refused to rise, by almost a unanimous vote.

Mr. BEECHER, of Ohio, then stated that it was his wish to be heard on the question; and, if not allowed an opportunity of speaking in committee, he should do so in the House, unless prevented by force; and he moved that the committee should then rise.

This motion was lost by a very large majority.

Mr. SMITH, of N. Carolina, said the course he was about to propose was unusual and perhaps without precedent—that was to call the previous question in committee of the whole; but, as he conceived the motion would be sustained by the rules and orders of the House, and to put an end to any further debate on the amendment, he moved for the previous question thereon.

The Chair conceived that the motion was not in order.

Mr. RANDOLPH asked leave of the mover of this course, to suggest to him a less invidious mode of getting at his object. If the committee should consent to rise, and the House would refuse it leave to sit again, the question would then be in the House; and that was the only way, Mr. R. said, that the committee, worn down by what was called a discussion, could be relieved from it. He hoped, wherever possible, that the previous question should be dispensed with; but if some mode were not devised of getting clear of this debate, he believed he should become reconciled to it—though a man convinced against his will was of the same opinion still, &c.

Mr. CLAY (Speaker) observed that the previous question would not effect the object of the gentleman who moved it; because its effect would be to put aside the question on the amendment altogether; and though that might be a very happy effect, yet it was not, he presumed, desired by the committee. and he thought it fair to warn gentlemen of an effect that he supposed was not anticipated.

Mr. SMITH of North Carolina, though he had felt himself at entire liberty to make a motion, intended to stop the debate, in as much as he had not troubled the committee with a speech on the subject: yet as the effect would be what had been stated by Speaker, he would withdraw his motion.

The question was then taken on Mr. Taylor's proposed Restriction, and agreed to.

Mr. Taylor then moved that the committee rise, as he presumed it was not prepared to go into the various details of the bill this evening, several of which were important, and would give rise to many questions.

This motion finally prevailed, and the committee obtained leave—ayes 90—to sit again. Adjourned.

SATURDAY, FEB. 26.

Mr. SMYTH of Virginia, from the committee on military affairs, to whom was referred an enquiry into the expediency establishing an additional national armory, made a report unfavorable to the establishment of an additional armory; which report was, on motion of Mr. Anderson, laid on the table.

Mr. R. MOORE, from a select committee, made a report on the petition of John Wells, accompanied by a bill for his relief, which was twice read and committed.

The bill from the Senate, for the relief of the legal representatives of John O'Connor, deceased, was read the third time; when, some debate ensu-

ing on its merits; the bill was, on motion of Mr. Storrs, committed to a committee of the whole House.

The order of the day being announced from the Chair,—being the unfinished business of yesterday,

Mr. HILL renewed the motion which he made yesterday, that the committee of the whole House be discharged from the further consideration of the Missouri Bill; but the motion was not sustained by a majority of the House.

The House then again resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Cobb in the chair, on the said bill.

Mr. STORRS, of New-York, moved to amend the bill, by inserting in the 4th section, (immediately preceding the Restrictive amendment adopted yesterday) the following proviso:

That in all that tract of country ceded by France to the United States, under the name of Louisiana, which lies north of thirty six degrees and thirty minutes north latitude, excepting only such part thereof as is included within the limits of the state contemplated by this act, there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted: Provided, always, That any person escaping into the same, from whom labor or service is lawfully claimed in any state or territory of the United States, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed, and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labor or service, as aforesaid.

Mr. STORRS supported his amendment in a speech of considerable length—embracing, incidentally, in the range of his remarks, an examination of the right of imposing the Slavery-Restriction on Missouri.

Mr. RANDOLPH next rose, and spoke more than four hours, against the amendment, and on the topics connected with it, the subject of restriction, &c. When he had concluded, (about half past four o'clock,)

An ineffectual motion was made for the committee to rise.

Mr. BEECHER, of Ohio, then took the floor, and proceeded a short time in a speech on the subject, when he gave way for a motion for the committee to rise, which prevailed, and about 5 o'clock the House adjourned.

MONDAY, FEB. 28.

Mr. RANDOLPH, from the select committee appointed on that subject, reported a bill for the relief of the family of the late Oliver Hazard Perry, and for the education of his children at the public charge; which was twice read and committed.

Mr. STORRS, from the select committee appointed on his resolution of the 10th of December last, to enquire and report whether any of the public monies appropriated by Congress for the pay and subsistence of the regular army of the United States, since the 4th of March 1815, have been applied to the support of any army or detachment of troops raised without the consent of this House, or the authority of Congress; made a report thereon.

This report is of very considerable length, and accompanied by a voluminous illustrating and supporting statements. The report having been read through, the usual number was ordered to be printed; and the report was committed to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Union.

On motion of Mr. CHAWFORD, it was

Resolved, That the committee of claims be fo

structed to enquire into the expediency of authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to subscribe as stock in the company incorporated by the Legislature of Kentucky, to cut a canal round the falls in the Ohio river, any number of shares, not exceeding five hundred.

Mr. H entered into some explanations in support of his motion, and to secure to it the favor of the House.

Mr. HENRICKS of Ohio, proposed an amendment to the resolution, having for its object to include a similar enquiry as to subscribing a like number of shares to the stock of the Jefferson Ohio canal company, and spoke a short time in favor of his motion; when

On motion of Mr. SMITH, of Md. the resolution was, for the present, laid on the table.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, announcing that the Senate insist on their amendments to the bill for the admission of Maine into the Union, which had been disagreed to by this House.

Mr. TAYLOR moved that the House insist on its disagreement to the said amendments.

Mr. COAN enquired of the chair whether the question could be divided so as to be taken separately on each principle embraced in the amendments.

Mr. LOWMEDE remarked, in substance, that it appeared to him there would be much difficulty in coming to any conclusion on these amendments in which the two Houses would concur; that he thought therefore that it would be better to lay them aside until this House had matured and finally acted on the bill now before it, for the admission of Missouri, and ascertained how it was received by the Senate, &c. with this view he moved that the amendments be laid on the table.

On this question the House divided, and the motion was negatived—ayes 74, noes 85.

Mr. CULPHER, then, after some remarks to shew the propriety and necessity of mutual concession and mutual forbearance on a question so important and delicate; and from the hope, that, by acting conclusively on the bill now before the House and sending it to the Senate, all difficulty would be gotten over, &c. moved that the amendments be postponed until to-morrow.

This motion was opposed by Mr. Holmes, and Mr. Whitman, who were averse to delaying a final decision on these amendments with which the admission of Maine was connected, and which they wished to separate from it as promptly as possible.

The motion to postpone the amendments was negatived without a count.

The main question then recurring, it was so decided, on motion of Mr. BUTLER, of Louisiana, as to be first taken on insisting on the disagreement of this House, to the first eight sections (connecting with the Maine bill provisions for the admission of Missouri) and was decided, by yeas and nays, as follows:—

FOR insisting on the disagreement of this House.

YEAS—Messrs. Adams, Allen of N. Y. Bateman, Beecher, Boden, Brush, Buffum, Butler of N. H. Campbell, Case, Claggett, Cook, Crafts, Cushman, Darlington, Dennison, Dewitt, Dickinson, Dowe, Eddy, Edwards of Conn. Edwards, of Penn. Fay, Folger, Foot, Ford, Forrest, Fuller, Gross of N. Y. Gross of Penn. Grayson, Hackley, Hall, of N. Y. Hazard, Hemphill, Hendricks, Herrick, Hibbard, Hester, Hill, Hoopes, Hostetter, Kendall, Kinsey, Lathrop, Lincoln, Lind, Livermore, Lyman, Maelay, Mailary, Marchand, Mason, Meech, Meigs, K. Moore, S. Moore, Munell, Morton, Moseley, Murray, Nelson of Mass. Nelson of Va. Parker of Mass. Patterson, Phelps, Phillips, Pitcher, Plumer, Rich, Richards, Richmond, Rogers, Ross

Russ, Sampson, Sergeant, Silsbee, Sloan, Smith of New Jersey Southard, Stevens, Storrs, Street, Strong of Vt. Strong of N. Y. Tarr, Taylor, Tomlinson, Tompkins, Tracy, Upham, Van Rensselaer, Wallace, Wendover, Whitman, Wood—97

AGAINST insisting on the disagreement.

NAYS—Messrs. Abbot, Alexander, Allen of Tenn. Anderson, Archer of Md. Archer of Va. Baldwin, Ball, Barbour, Bloomfield, Brevard, Brown, Bryan, Burton, Burwell, Butler of Louisiana, Cobb, Cooke, Crawford, Culbreth, Culpeper, Guthbert, Davidson, Earle, Edwards of N. C. Ervin, Fisher, Floyd, Fullerton, Garrett, Hardin, Hooks, Johnson, Jones of Va. Jones of Tenn. Kent, Little, Lowmde, McCoy, McCreary, McLane of Ken. Mercer, Metcalf, Neale, Newton, Overstreet, Parker of Va. Pinckney, Pindall, Quarles, Randolph, Rankin, Reed, Rhoads, Ringgold, Robertson, Settle, Shaw, Simkins, Slocomb, Smith of Md. B. Smith of Va. A. Smith of Va. Smith of N. C. Strother, Swearingen, Terrell, Trumble, Tucker of Va. Tucker of S. C. Tyler, Walker of N. C. Warfield, Williams of Va. Williams of N. C.—79

The question was then stated on insisting on the disagreement of the House to the remaining amendments of the Senate, (being the 9th section, embracing the compromise principle.)

Mr. LOWMEDE wished to remark, before this question was taken, that, although he should always be ready to vote for such a proposition, substantially, when presented to him, combined with the free admission of Missouri; yet as the amendment relative to Missouri had been disagreed to, it would be useless to retain this amendment in connection with the Maine bill alone, and, as he should therefore, now vote against retaining it, he wished his motive to be understood.

Mr. M'GREARY made a remark or two to the same effect; when

The question was taken on insisting on the disagreement of the House to the 9th section of the Senate's amendments and carried, by yeas 160, nays 14.

So the House insisted on its disagreement to the whole of the Senate's amendments to the Maine bill; and the Clerk was directed to acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House then again went into committee of the whole Mr. Cobb in the chair, on the Missouri bill—Mr. Storrs's proposition to insert therein the clause to exclude slavery from the territory of the United States west of the Mississippi and north of 36 deg. 30 min. north latitude, (excepting the proposed state of Missouri,) being still under consideration.

Mr. BEECHER resumed and concluded the speech which he commenced on Saturday, against the amendment, and in defence of the right of Congress to impose the slavery restriction, heretofore discussed.

Mr. RANDOLPH again rose, and spoke some time against the amendment, and in reply to some of the arguments of Mr. Beecher.

Mr. MALLARY, of Vermont, spoke also some time in explanation of the reasons which, though he was in favor of the principle of accommodation embraced by the amendment, would induce him to vote against it as now proposed, &c.

Mr. STORRS next addressed the committee, in a short but earnest speech, in support of his amendment. Mr. Livermore made a few remarks against the amendment. Mr. Baldwin spoke a short time in favor of the amendment, and in reply to a point or two of Mr. Beecher's remarks.

The question was then taken on Mr. Storrs's amendment, and decided in the negative—ayes 33.

The committee then proceeded to fill up the details of the bill;

Mr. TAYLOR moved an amendment thereto, going to strike out all that part providing the apportionment of the territory.

tionment of delegates to the convention among the several counties, and substituting therefor, in substance, a provision leaving the apportionment of the general assembly of the Territory, according to the free population thereof.

Mr. RANDOLPH rose to offer a little amendment, which he supposed had dropped out of it by accident; it was the word *white*—a matter, he observed, of some importance yet to those on the south side, as they said—and proceeded to extend his remarks on the subject; when

Mr. TAYLOR accepted the amendment with pleasure. He had omitted it, because it was sufficiently expressed in subsequent parts, and he had not deemed it important here.

Considerable discussion ensued on Mr. Taylor's amendment, in which it was opposed by Messrs. Scott, Whitman, and Clay, and was supported by the mover and Mr. Livermore; and the question being taken thereon, was decided in the negative, by a large majority.

Mr. ALLEN, of Mass. then moved to amend the 2d section of the bill, by striking out of the clause which designates the kind of persons who shall vote for delegates to the convention of the state, the word "white," so as to extend the privilege of voting to "all free male citizens;" and spoke at some length in support of his motion, and in explanation of his opinions on other points which had been introduced in the debate of the bill.

Mr. RANDOLPH rose in opposition to this amendment, and spoke about an hour and a half on this motion, and other topics which he embraced in its consideration.

After filling the blanks in the bill, according to the motions of Mr. Scott, of Missouri.

Mr. TAYLOR moved an amendment [one which he had offered on the first day that the bill was taken up, and then withdrawn] by adding to the last section the following clause: "And if the same [the constitution] shall be approved by congress at their next session after the receipt thereof, the said Territory shall be admitted into the Union, as a state upon the same footing as the original states."

This motion was advocated by the mover, and earnestly opposed by Messrs. Scott, Clay, and Mercer; and, after some remarks by Mr. Butler, of La touching the case of Louisiana, referred to in the debate.

The question was taken on Mr. Taylor's motion, and negatived—ayes 75, noes 84.

Mr. STOWNS then offered an amendment in effect to transfer the restrictive amendment already adopted, to the 6th section of the bill, (which embraces those provisions in the nature of compact) and so modify it as to make it a recommendation for the free acceptance or rejection of the convention of Missouri, as an article of compact, to exclude slavery, instead of enjoining it as an absolute condition of their admission.

Mr. CLAY seconded the motion, and, with the mover, zealously urged the adoption of the amendment. It was opposed as zealously by Messrs. Taylor, Sargent, and Gross of N. Y.

The debate had continued some time, with much animation; when, in consequence of the doubts expressed whether the amendment, in its present shape, was in order, Mr. Storrs withdrew it.

Mr. CLAY renewed the amendment in substance, but so changing the manner of inserting it in the bill as to avoid the objection as the point of order.

The debate was renewed on the proposition, and continued two hours, with undiminished zeal,

by Mr. Clay, in its support, and by Messrs. Taylor, Sergeant, Randolph, and Cook, against it.

The question being put, the committee divided, and the amendment was negatived, as follows: for the amendment 82—against it, 92.

No other amendment being offered, about half past 9 o'clock, the committee (having rejected several motions, in the course of the evening to rise and report progress) rose and reported the bill to the House.

Mr. LOWMEYER laid the following proposition on the table, as an amendment of the rules and orders of the House:

And if any member shall not confine himself to the question under debate, and shall be called to order, if the decision of the speaker of the House upon appeal, be against the member thus deviating from the question, such member shall not be, at that time permitted to proceed, without the special leave of the House. Adjourned.

TUESDAY, FEB. 29.

The Missouri Bill, was at this sitting, ordered to be engrossed, yeas 93, nays 84.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1.

Soon after the Speaker had taken the chair,

Mr. QUABLES of Ky. rose, he said with feelings which he could not express, and with a melancholy very seldom experienced, by him, to announce to the House the distressing intelligence of the death of one of its body: my friend and colleague Major DAVID WALKER, with christian fortitude, about 8 o'clock this morning, exchanged, said Mr. Q. a world of cares, of toils and difficulties, for, I hope, a mansion of bliss.

I offer, said Mr. Q. for consideration, resolutions comporting with the wish of the deceased. While living, my colleague, by profession and practice, in private and public life, was a plain, unaffected man. He, from education, had an abhorrence of pomp and parade. He desired that the body that was clad with mourning should weep with mental distress. He had seen numerous carriages, filled with persons attending funerals, at this and other places, moving with solemnity to the burial ground, and returning from it with no evidences of sorrow.—And to prevent a similar spectacle, connected with his remains, did he make the request contained in the resolutions I now offer. The Representatives from Kentucky, the relatives of the deceased, and also those gentlemen who lived with him, and whose kindness was generously afforded him in sickness, have been consulted with regard to the propriety of the course which is now proposed, and have approved it. I wish that this Body will consider the departure from the usual course of proceeding on former occasions of this kind, as arising from none other than the purest motives—the most sincere respect to our colleague—and in this House, a desire to carry into execution the dying wish of one of its body. I hope that I shall have the kind indulgence of my brother members, in permitting the repeated wishes of my colleague to be carried into effect, conformably to the spirit of the resolutions now proposed.

Mr. Q. then submitted the following resolutions:

Resolved, unanimously, That a committee be appointed to take order for superintending the funeral of David Walker, deceased, late a Representative from the state of Kentucky.

Resolved, That the said David Walker having communicated to the Speaker of this House, and the hon. James Barbour, of the Senate, shortly be-

fore his death, his wish that he might be buried without pomp or parade, attended by a few only of his friends, in compliance with his wish, this House will, on this occasion, not conform to the practice which has heretofore prevailed, of adjourning, to attend the funeral of a deceased member.

Resolved, further, That, in conformity with the spirit of the same wish of the deceased, the members of this house will depart from the usage of wearing crape for one month, with the exception of those who may voluntarily choose to conform to said usage.

The first death (observed Mr. Randolph) which took place of a member of this House—and I ought well to remember it—for it was of one of my nearest relatives, the only near one left on the maternal side—it took place in New-York, in the month of June, 1790, when Congress sat in that city—the House resolved that the Delegation of Virginia then present (consisting, when full, of only ten members, should be a committee to see performed the last sad offices for the deceased. The next day they “resolved, unanimously, that the members of this House, from a sincere desire of showing every mark of respect due to the memory of Theodorick Bland, deceased, late a member thereof, will go in mourning for him one month, by the usual mode of wearing crape on the left arm.” As the member in question was, if not in affluent, yet in independent circumstances, it was ordered that a sum equal to his travelling expenses, had he lived to return to Virginia, should be allowed for the expense of removing him to his last sad home in this world. I mean, sir, the travelling allowance was viewed as a fund to which the deceased member's executors might be entitled, and therefore applicable, under the direction of his colleagues, to the rights of sepulture. His executors might, if they pleased, have removed the body to the family burial ground. The funeral was neither pompous nor expensive, it was, what it ought to have been, decent Christian burial. Other cases had occurred, Mr. R. continued, which he remembered, in Philadelphia; two particularly, of members from North Carolina. On those occasions, a particular friend of his, who has been a member of Congress from the time of the adoption of the constitution by North Carolina, was appointed on the committee to make the necessary arrangements for interment; in the case of Mr. Burgess of Edenton, he believed, and in that of Mr. Bryan of Newbern, he was sure, in conjunction with a colleague of his, (Mr. Thomas Blount,) since also gone where all flesh must go. On that occasion this rule was also observed. During the first session of Congress here, (the last of Mr. Adams' administration) this House lost one of its most valuable members, in the person of a gentleman from Georgia, (Mr. Jones.) In this case the rule was still adhered to. But, at a succeeding session, the first under the new administration, and the only bad example set at the time—Mr. R. regretted it the more; as he felt his full share of all responsibility incurred at that time—on the death of the delegate from the Territory of Mississippi (Mr. Hunter) the rule was departed from; then, for the first time, was the practice adopted of providing a funeral at the public expense, be that expense what it might; and that rule, under which gross abuses have been practised, has continued ever since to be observed, or rather to be abused; and this without any change in the accustomed form of attending the funeral and wearing crape for a month.

Why not, then, in this case, said Mr. R. comply with the letter & spirit of the request of the deceased without departing from the established form, and yet get back, if I may so express myself, to first principles on this melancholy occasion? Mr. Randolph adverted to the funeral of a former Vice-President. To what man does the cause of American Independence owe more—with one single exception—than to George Clinton? None—none, sir. If any man's remains might claim a funeral at the public expense, surely it is those of him whose death bathed a nation in tears. Next to that man, or as near as any, in the cause of the revolution, stood George Clinton. But a funeral at the public expense ought to be considered as the highest public honor which the nation could bestow. Ought it, then, to be considered a matter of course, that, whenever a member of either House of Congress, or a Territorial Delegate, or a Vice-President, or even a President of the United States, shall leave this bustling, sorry world, we shall follow him (perhaps nothing loath) to the grave, and the sumptuous funeral be defrayed at the public charge? It was not the money price of which he spoke.—Recollect the case of the late William Pitt. What was the distinction taken on that occasion? And by whom was a public funeral of that great statesman, who for more than 20 years had filled the first place in the eyes of Europe, opposed? By a man whom I may call, and will call, ultimus Anglorum—by William Windham; by the favorite disciple of Edmund Burke—the fourth but not the least star in the great constellation of English statesmen that is set forever. It was this—he would pay the debts of this eminent man; his great and disinterested public services deserved it at the hands of the nation; but he would give no unsuccessful statesman, and such he considered Mr. Pitt to have been, a funeral at the public expense. Mr. R. hoped the House would, in the present case, go on in the usual course; and that, while it complied with the established form, it would at the same time comply in such a manner as to fulfil the letter and spirit of the request of the deceased.

The SPEAKER rose and observed that, as he was referred to in the resolutions, he would ask leave of the house to state what had passed between himself and the deceased, which corroborated and supported the statement contained in the resolution.

A few remarks were subjoined by Mr. Clark and Mr. Culpeper, in approbation of the wishes of the deceased; when the question was taken on each resolution separately, (a division of the question having been required by Mr. Walker, of N. C.) and they were severally agreed to, *nem con*.

A committee was appointed accordingly, consisting of the entire delegation from Kentucky, with the exception of Mr. Clay, (Speaker,) and with the addition of Messrs. Barbour, Shaw, Taylor, and Cuthbert.

On motion of Mr. RANDOLPH, the house agreed that when it adjourned, it would adjourn to twelve o'clock to-morrow.

Mr. KENT, from the committee on the District of Columbia, made an unfavorable report on the petition of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, (to be authorised to build a Masonic Hall by lottery;) which report was read and concurred in.

Mr. CANNON, from the committee on the subject

of the militia, reported a bill to establish a uniform mode of discipline and field exercise for the militia of the United States; which was twice read and committed.

The Speaker also laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of War, communicating the information required by the resolution of the 22d ult. in relation to the contracts heretofore made with James Johnson, Alex. M'Rae, Elias Earl, and Peter Townsend, for the delivery of powder, arms, &c.

Mr. WHITMAN submitted the following resolution for consideration:

Resolved, That the committee on Naval Affairs be instructed to inquire and report to this House what right, if any, Commodore Steward had by law or otherwise, to require that men whose term of enlistment expired while on the Mediterranean station, should either re-enlist or forfeit the right "to any claim or provision as distressed seamen, from the consuls of the U. States in Europe;" and what right existed at the departments of the Treasury and Navy, "to refuse remuneration for such claims," as stated in a letter, under date of the 27th January, 1820, addressed by the Secretary of the Navy to the chairman of the committee of Ways and Means.

The engrossed bill to authorise the people of Missouri to form a constitution and State government, and for the admission of such State into the Union upon an equal footing with the original States, was read the third time, and the question stated "Shall the bill pass?"

Mr. RANDOLPH rose and spoke more than three hours against the passage of the bill, on the ground of the unconstitutional and unjust Restriction which it imposed on the people of Missouri as a condition of their admission into the Union, &c. When Mr. R. had concluded,

Mr. HOLMES called for the *previous question*. The call being sustained by the House, the previous question was accordingly stated, "Shall the main question be now put?" which, being agreed to, the question was taken on passing the bill, and decided in the affirmative by yeas and nays, as follows—

FOR the passage of the bill, 91

AGAINST it, 82

So the bill was passed and sent to the Senate for their concurrence; and the House adjourned.

REPORT

Of the Secretary of the Navy, in pursuance of a resolution of the Senate, in relation to the Rules, Regulations, and Instructions for the Naval Service.—[Read January 3, referred to the committee on Naval Affairs, and ordered to be printed.]

Navy Department, Dec. 20 1819.

SIR—In obedience to a resolution of the honorable the Senate of the 8th February last, I have the honor to report, that, on examination of the rules, regulations, and instructions for the Naval Service, prepared and reported under the authority of an act of Congress of the 7th day of February, 1815, they are found to be at variance with existing laws in the following particulars:—

The 14th article, under the head of Navy Yards, places the guard of Marines, detached for the protection of the yard, under the command of the commandant of the yard, in the same manner as if on board a ship of war, and, of course, subjects the marines to the rules and articles for the govern-

ment of the Navy. This is conceived to be contrary to the act of the 11th July, 1798, establishing and organizing a Marine Corps, and by which act the corps is considered as being in addition to the military establishment; and, by the fair construction of the 4th section of the act, marines, when doing duty onshore, are to be governed by the rules and articles of war, prescribed for the military establishment of the United States. It is, however, respectfully submitted, for consideration, whether an amendment of the law, so as to make it conform to the rules and regulations in this respect, will not be expedient; it might contribute to order and due subordination, to make the commandant of a yard as independent in his yard, in all respects, as a captain on board his ship. Should this be thought to interfere too much with the command and government of the Marine Corps, it is suggested, as worthy of consideration, whether it would not be expedient, for the protection of Navy Yards, to substitute watches, to be composed of sailors selected from the list of pensioners, and such others as have distinguished themselves for integrity, sobriety, and general good conduct, in the place of guards detached from the Corps of Marines, this would give employment to a very meritorious class of men, who, by their age and disabilities are rendered unfit for active sea service. It is believed that such protection would be not only more efficient, but might be provided at much less expense than at present. It is not intended by this suggestion to intimate that the present establishment of the Marine Corps should be reduced, but, on the contrary, if guards for the Navy Yards are to be detached from this corps, as our ships of war multiply, it will very soon become indispensably necessary to increase its numbers.

By the 28th article of the regulations, under the head of Purser, the component parts of the ration are different from those fixed by the act of Congress of the 3d of March, 1801, as will be seen by comparing the 3d section of the act with the article above referred to. Tea and sugar have been substituted in lieu of suet, and half the rice formerly issued.—Whether it will be expedient so to alter the law as to make the ration conformable to the regulation, is respectfully submitted.

By the act of Congress of the 21st of April, 1806, it is declared, that officers when not under orders for actual service, shall receive no more than half their monthly pay; and, by the 3d article of the rules and regulations, under the head of full and half pay and rations, it is provided, that such officers shall be entitled to only half their pay and half their rations. Doubts have been entertained whether the law authorizes the allowance of half their rations; although I am of opinion, that a just interpretation of the law is in conformity with the regulation as it stands, yet, it is submitted whether, for the purpose of removing all doubt, it is not expedient to make the law more explicit.

These are the only instances in which I have discovered the rules and regulations at variance with existing laws. By the resolution of the honorable the Senate, I am also required to report, whether, in my opinion, any further legislative provision is necessary to give force and effect to these rules and regulations. By the act of the 7th February, 1815, the Commissioners of the Navy, with the consent of the Secretary of the Navy, were required to prepare such rules and regulations as should be necessary for securing an uniformity in the several classes of vessels and their equipments, and for repairing and

refitting them, and for securing responsibility in the subordinate officers and agents. Which regulations, when approved by the President, the act declares, shall be respected and obeyed until altered and revoked by the same authority. So far as the rules relate to the subjects upon which they were to be prepared, as specified in the act aforesaid, they may be binding and operative without any further legislative provision. But it will be perceived, from an examination of the rules and regulations, that many of them relate to subjects not enumerated, or coming within the purview of the act under which they were prepared; in which cases they have not the force and effect of laws, and further legislative provision is necessary to give them such effect. It is believed, that some additions to these regulations might be advantageously made, and it is respectfully suggested, that they be revised and reported to Congress, and, when adopted, expressly made by law, *Rules and Regulations for the government of the Navy of the United States.*

By the resolution, I am also required to report any other provisions which I may deem proper, for the more perfect administration of the naval service.

Believing it to fall within the scope of the resolution, I would respectfully suggest the propriety of making some additional grades in the rank of Naval Officers. The rank of captain is now the highest grade in the Navy recognized by law; and heretofore during the infancy of our Navy and whilst we had no vessels of a higher class than frigates, and the number of captains small, it was, perhaps as high a grade as the good of the service required. It is, however believed, that, from the addition both to the number and class of our public ships, and from what may reasonably be anticipated to be the situation of our Navy in the course of a few years, both justice and policy require some higher grades of office. According to the relative rank as now established between the military and Naval Officers, a Captain in the Navy only ranks with a Colonel in the Army; this is thought to be contrary to sound policy and the good of the service. The importance of rank, both in the military and naval service, will readily occur to all in any degree acquainted with either. It is therefore respectfully suggested, that the grades of Commodore and Rear Admiral be established by law; this, it is confidently believed, would essentially contribute (if not absolutely necessary) to due subordination and discipline. In a fleet or squadron, when the different vessels may be commanded by officers of the same grade, and their relative rank, and even that of the commander, known only by the dates of their commissions, there will not be that respect and subordination observed, that are essential to order and harmony. Should the increased expense be deemed an objection at the present time, let the number of officers to be appointed be few; and, indeed, the establishment of these grades is considered so essential to the prosperity of the Navy, that it is an object deserved attention, should there be no additional compensation allowed.

I would further beg leave to suggest the propriety of some amendment of the laws relative to the Surgeons in the Navy; it would be desirable to establish grades in this class of officers also; at all events, justice and sound policy require a gradation in their pay and emoluments; the compensation ought to be in some measure regulated by the importance of the station in which they are placed, and the talents and qualifications required for the

due and faithful discharge of the duty imposed. Whether the compensation now allowed is sufficient to call into the service the talents and learning, which its importance demands, is respectfully submitted. A division of these officers into classes, according to the rate of the vessel in which they shall serve, is thought would be beneficial, and is suggested for consideration; and this would afford a just standard by which to regulate their pay. The designation of some officer to be placed at the head of this class of officers, and who should have the immediate superintendence of this branch of the service, under regulations for that purpose to be established, is believed would contribute much to the benefit of the service.

The rules and regulations recognize and assign particular duties to several officers not known in the law; such as Surgeons of the Fleet, Hospital Surgeons, and Medical Purveyors; although this is considered fit, and proper, and beneficial to the service, yet some legal provision is necessary to give such officers the rank and authority contemplated by the regulations. These, and many other subjects in relation to this class of officers, the details of which could not with propriety be embraced in this report, seem to require attention, and legal provision.

All which is respectfully submitted.

SMITH THOMPSON.

The Honorable the President of the Senate.

From the Baltimore American.

"NEW EXCHANGE."

Baltimore, in proportion to the age of the city, and the amount of her population, can boast of having expended, as much if not more money in Turnpike roads, public improvements, and public buildings, on a large scale, than any other city in the Union. But the New Exchange, both in its usefulness, its size, and its magnificence, may claim a rank at least equal to that of any other public building in any of our cities, and, as a commercial building, the Baltimore Exchange has certainly no rival in America.

It is always difficult so to describe a building as to give to the reader an adequate idea of its effect upon the eye. But some knowledge may be conveyed of the extent, the usefulness, and the construction of an edifice by description. This we shall now attempt.

The whole building, of which the Exchange properly so called, forms the centre mass, is bounded by four streets, Water street on the south, Gay-street on the east, Second-street on the north, and Exchange-street on the West. The east and west fronts are 256 feet in length, those on Water-street and Second-street 140 feet. The plan of the building is similar to the letter H, there being a court on the north and south fronts, extending 72 feet 6 inches, into the plan. The south east wing is the Custom-house, the north-east the United States Branch Bank. The Custom-house is 45 feet wide, 72 feet 6 inches deep; the Bank 60 by 72 feet 6 inches, leaving on the south a handsome court of 50 by 72 feet 6 inches; the Exchange itself occupying the centre, is 140 by 111 feet, and 15,340 superficial feet or more than 1-3 of an acre. These three buildings, the Exchange, the Custom-house and the Bank, form an uniform front of 266 feet in length on Gay-street, three stories in height, in the centre of which is the eastern entrance into the Exchange. This entrance is under a decor-

ated vault, covering a flight of marble steps 12 feet in width, terminated at the door of the Exchange by a wide platform—beyond the door the vault is continued to the Exchange hall.—From south, or Exchange court, and the north court, are similar entrances leading into the hall.

The Exchange hall itself consists of a space 53 feet square, bounded on the east and west by range of veined marble columns, of the Ionic order, 6 on each side—each column is 15 feet 9 inches high and 1 foot 9 inches diameter, is a single block. The capitals and bases are admirably sculptured in statuary marble.

Beyond the colonnades, the hall extends 15 ft. on each side, so that the space, which is allotted to the merchants is 83 by 53 feet, the entablature of the colonnade is carried round the whole area of the space, and above it on each of the four sides, an arch is thrown 50 feet in diameter. The arches on the east and west sides cover each a broad gallery, supported by the colonnade, and connecting the north with the south side of the building.—Upon these arches and their spandrels, a circular gallery of free stone is carried, projecting over the hall so as to leave an opening to the dome of 48 feet in diameter. Upon the parapet of the gallery is an ornamental bullustrade of cast iron, forming a grecian border of honey suckles and fleurons. This gallery is about 60 feet from the floor of the Exchange, and is reached by a very commodious stair-case on the north side of the building.—Its circumference is 160 feet. The gallery is nearly on a level with the ridge of the roof of the rest of the building. The principal dome rises from thence—internally it is circular, externally its form is octangular—the north, south, east and west sides being 35 feet in width.—In each of these sides is a window 20 feet wide. Four doric columns divide the openings into 5 compartments—and from their entablature springs a semicircular arch filled with a hand some ash. These windows command a view of the whole city, and harbor, of the peninsula at the point of which is Fort M'Henry, and the river Patapsco as far as the Chesapeake Bay.—To the north are seen the great dome of the Cathedral, and that of the Independent Church, the white marble column of Washington, in Howard's Park, and all around the houses, churches and steeples of this city.

Above the four large windows, the dome richly pannelled and ornamented with rosettes, covers the whole. In the centre is a compass, on which an arrow, governed by the vane, shows the direction of the wind. The internal height of the dome is 115 feet above the floor of the Exchange.

The whole of the part of the Exchange which has been described is solidly constructed of bricks and stone, no timber whatever being used, except in the sashes, doors, and the flooring of the Galleries. The exterior of the dome forms a most conspicuous and handsome object from the harbor and in the approach to the city by water or by land, and distinguishes itself very agreeably upon its tall rectangular tower, from the other large domes of the city. Contiguous to the Exchange Hall, on the west side is the reading room. It is a handsome apartment 53 feet long by 30 feet wide. Adjoining is a room for refreshments 30 feet square. Besides these apartments which may be considered as public, there is another on the south side 30 feet square. On each side the north and south entrances are rooms 24 by 18 feet, and on the Gay street front are four rooms, 2 of them 18 by 80 feet,

and 2 of them 30 feet square, in all nine spacious apartments, each of them furnished with fire-proof closets, and admirably adapted to the purpose of Insurance Offices, for which they are intended. They are finished in a plain, substantial style, and with excellent workmanship. This story is 18 feet 6 inches high.

In each angle of the Exchange Hall is an arch leading to a very commodious and ample stair-case, which communicates to the stories above, and the basement story below. On the second and third stories are 8 spacious apartments above the Insurance officers, and 2 large rooms 53 feet by 30, which extend through both stories.

The basement story which at the south east angle rises 11 feet above the pavement, is laid out in 20 offices for brokers, attorneys, and counting houses. The whole story is solidly vaulted. Each office has its marble chimney piece, its fuel vault, and under the floor of the Exchange are separate fuel vaults, for the offices on the principal floor and for the rooms up stairs.

This story is so contrived that every part of it is perfectly well lighted. The passages are all terminated by a window. From the Exchange room the access to every part is immediate from one or other of the four stair cases, and from without there are entrances on the W. N. and S. sides. The principal entrance is by a wide door and stairs on Exchange street.

Nothing is probably so tiresome and unsatisfactory as such a description of a large building as the above. And it has this inconvenience, that in proportion to its accuracy and detail, it becomes more fatiguing, and more confusing in its perusal. It has therefore been shortened as much as possible.

To those who have seen the magnificent facade of the Louvre 1000 feet in length, or any of the great European Churches or Palaces, the work of overgrown wealth and overgrown power, whose object was rather splendor than utility, to such the plain simple style of the Exchange of Baltimore, in which, although every thing solid and permanent, and perfect, fully up to its pretensions, yet nothing is gaudy, this style may perhaps appear a very moderate exhibition of art or of wealth. But to an American eye and to an American heart, such a building and such a style of building must yield high gratification.

Indeed this structure in any country would be on many accounts remarkable. The boldness and novelty of its architecture is not its least praise. That the effect of the first view of the Hall is as astonishing and novel as that of any similar apartment in Europe, is acknowledged by all travellers who have seen it. And yet, with the exception of the marble columns, and rosettes with which the pannels of the dome are filled, the whole effect is produced by plain surfaces, and plain mouldings. The same remark applies to the exterior. On each side of the principal entrance is sculptured in high relief the winged Caduceus; and in two circular recesses are busts in white marble of Washington and Franklin; the rest is plain arch and cornice of free-stone and plain surface; and yet so harmonious are the proportions and divisions of the parts, as to produce the most agreeable as well as powerful effect of magnitude on the mind.

The whole building is the design of B. H. Latrobe, esq. late surveyor of the public buildings U. S. from whom the dimensions of the different parts have been obtained. We think it his best and greatest work, at least it is his boldest.

Col. Jacob Small of our city, superintended its construction, and it does great honor to his skill and indefatigable industry.

The Custom House is a single room divided by very elegant colonnades into spaces for the public and the officers of the customs. It has been occupied for a year, and is found to be uncommonly well adapted to its objects.

The Bank is not yet finished.

DEER HUNT.—A week or two since, (says the Catskill Recorder) two lads living in the town of Hunter, Green county, N. York, discovered a large black bear. They pursued him from morning until the close of the day, frequently so near as to strike him: the depth of the snow preventing his running from or attacking them, and they being unable, from the nature of their weapons, to materially injure him. On reaching the little falls of the Catskill, the bear put himself into the form of a coil, and very deliberately rolled off the precipice, a height about 100 feet. On the following morning, a company started in pursuit of him, discovered that he received no hurt from his retreat. He was traced to the highest peak of the Catskill mountain, (Round Top) and driven into a cave, where he was shot. The quarters weighed 225 lbs. after dressing, and his skin measured eight feet from the nose to the tail.

The amount collected in N. York for the relief of the sufferers by the late fire in Savannah, is as follows:

1st Ward	\$4381 50
2d do	1671 37
3d do	1839 12
4th do	805 80
5th do	564 30
6th do	815 00
7th do	347 12
8th do	1070 00
9th do	292 75
10th do	347 52

\$12,184.49

Individual donation and gain on Exchange,	344 78	\$12,528 26
Remitted 14th inst. per mail.	\$10, 248 26	
Do. 17th do. do.	2281 00	\$12,629 26

Besides, as forwarded by the brig Othello,
3 kegs Nails,
4 pair Blankets,
19 Cotton Shawls,
2 cases Hats,
4 8 12 dozen Shoes, assorted,
2 cases Hardware, assorted,
25 yards Calico.

JOSEPH P. M. KINNE, Sec'y.

REVOLUTION IN SPAIN.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 28.—Capt. Ramberger, of the ship Medora, arrived here yesterday, in 45 days from Cadiz, from which place he escaped on the 5th January, an embargo having been laid on all vessels in that port.

Part of the army had revolted, and all communication between Cadiz and the interior

of the country was cut off. Cadiz was, in fact, in a state of siege. The Grand Expedition was at an end. Provisions had risen 50 per cent.

Further particulars.—The Revolution commenced on the 3d January. Six thousand troops marched to the town of Caracas, and released the prisoner who had been arrested by General O'Donnell, (Count d'Abisbal.) A Colonel then put himself at the head of the troops, and took possession of Isla. In the mean time the Governor of Cadiz assembled about 300 soldiers, and garrisoned a strong fort which commands the road. Next day, the 4th of January, he sent a flag of truce to the army, to demand the reason of hostilities. Their reply and demand was, "That the constitution of the Cortes should be adopted; their arrearages paid; and that they would not embark for South America, to bear arms against their countrymen."

Another portion of the army, amounting to 10,000 strong, had marched against Madrid, to demand the same stipulations of the King.

The same day (the 4th) all communication was stopped between Port St. Maria, Caracas, St. Roque, and all the adjoining towns, and an embargo laid on all vessels in the harbor.

The Spanish men of war in the harbor of Cadiz were ordered to be in readiness to put to sea at a moment's warning.

Further information respecting this important event may be expected in a few days, as the captain of a New-York ship informed Capt. Ramberger that he intended to make his escape from the embargo on the following night.

A letter from Camden, S. C. dated 17th inst. mentions the following horrible transaction.

"We have had a murder committed in this place, which for atrocity, is unprecedented in the annals of villainy. It was the act of John Harris, upon his own slave, a woman. It appears the slave was sick, confined to her bed, and unable to work. He went to her hut at the lower end of the town, about 12 at night, dragged her from her bed, and beat her in a most unmerciful manner; then got a rope, one end of which he tied round her neck, and the other round the neck of his horse, and dragged her about the street, till she was apparently dead. He then built a fire upon her and left her. The only witnesses of this diabolical act were two poor old women, who could do nothing in defence of the victim.—The murderer was apprehended next morning, and bound over to make his appearance at our next court."

Communicate for the N. Y. American.

Extract of a letter from Canton, dated 10th of October, 1810.

"That you may judge of the value of the American trade to this port, I enclose an estimate of the imports of the last season, which exceeded that of the English Company between three and four millions of dollars."

ESTIMATE

Of American Import-trade to Canton, 1818-19.

Specie dollars,			\$7,414,000
Ginseng, pec.	1414 a	\$53	77,770
Opium, Turkey			
and Maloa,	818 -	650	531,700
Lead,	13248 -	5 3 4	76,176
Iron,	8596 -	4	34,384
Copper,	14402 -	22	316,844
Quicksilver,	9345 -	75	70,875
Coral,	84 -	250	21,000
Cochineal,	104 -	750	78,000
Beetlenut,	8591 -	3 1 2	30,068
Sea Otters, pcs.	4431 -	28	120,040
Land Otters,	9885 -	5	49,425
Beavers,	20570 -	4	82,200
Seals,	77240 -	1 1 4	91,550
Foxes,	3020 -	2 1 2	7,550
Sea Otter Tails,	2896 -	3 1 2	10,136
Rabbit Skins,	15042 -	5	752
Cloth,	769 -	40	30,760
San't Wood, pc.	10152 -	8 1 2	35,922
Ebony, peculs,	614 -	3 1 2	2,149
Rattans,	1214 -	4	4,856
Tin,	2954 -	21	62,032
Cloves,	114 -	90	10,260
Wvalebone,	150 -	13	1,950
Rice,	5400 -	2	18,800
Dutch Chamblets,			
pieces,	1788 -	45	80,460
Bombazetta,	2400 -	7	168,000
Cottons,	600 -	10	6,000
Gin, cases,	1000 -	5	5,000
Glass, peculs,	1500 -	6	9,000
Bills on England,			140,000
			<hr/> 2,698,011
			<hr/> \$10,112,911

Translated for the Washington City Gazette.

REPUBLIC of VENEZUELA.

JOHN BAPTISTE ARISMENDI, of the Liberating-Order, Captain General of his Armies, and Vice-President of the State, &c.

Government House, at Maturin, }
23d of November, 1819.

A Proclamation to the British Legion.

Generous Strangers—A noble sentiment of justice has caused you to leave your native land. Scarcely did you know that Venezuela was struggling for her Liberty and Independence, when you left your homes to enroll yourselves under her Banners. Born freemen, you detested alike tyranny and tyrants.

The Republic of Venezuela esteems you as her sons, and has made you equal partakers of the rights, privileges, and of the recompense due to her Liberators.

Our Armies, conducted by the President of the State, have liberated New Granada.—Your brave compatriots, who accompanied him in this glorious

enterprise, have behaved like Heroes, and have already received the reward of their labours.

His Excellency the President is once more in the territory of Venezuela, at the head of an Army equally numerous and well provided; and I have come in person to send you to the field of honor for the purpose of acquiring new glories.—I have come to march and join you with the great Army of the East, which, under the orders of the Brave General in Chief Marino, will drive the enemies of Liberty from their last entrenchment.

Subordination, respect for the laws of Venezuela, the most strict discipline, and the most cordial and perfect union between you and the Venezuelan soldiers, will form an invincible army, which will expel for ever the oppressor from a country which they have stained with their crimes.

Brave Brothers in Arms!—I take my leave of you, satisfied that you will conduct yourselves in battle equal to your brave compatriots in New Granada; and the legislative body and the government will always deem you as one of the first liberators of Venezuela.

J. B. ARISMENDI.

THE SEASON of LENT

Commenced on Wednesday, the 16th ultimo. The following pious stanzas cannot therefore be considered unreasonable.

LENT HYMN.

Saviour! who the Tempter's power
Foil'd in the forsaken hour;
By the Eternal Spirit led;
Craving not our earthly bread;
May thy bright example shine
Through this world this world of thine?

Did thy sacred footsteps press,
Lone and sad the wilderness?
Wast thou by the Father sent
Here to hunger, thirst and fight?
And can thy Disciples moan
Sorrows to their Lord unknown?

Forty nights and forty days,
Lo! the Fiend his might essays;
Vain the wiles he useth now,
Jesus will not stoop nor bow—
Saviour! thankful would we be:
Hast thou yielded—where were we?

When, upon the mountain's height,
Kingdoms vast appear'd in sight,
Kingdoms that should own thy sway,
Wouldst thou but the Fiend obey—
Firm thou stoodst—sublimely good—
Lord! accept our gratitude!

O may we, assaulted, prest,
By temptations, thus resist;
What doth worldly wealth avail,
Weigh'd 'gainst truth in righteous scale?
What are honor, grandeur, power,
In the awful judgment hour!

Saviour! we would fain, with Thee,
Seek a scene from bustle free;
We would fain, forsaking care,
Fasting, live by Faith and Prayer;
Till, Life's wilderness is trod,
Reach we cities built by God!

Washington, March 3, 1820.

The publication of the "Register" has, in consequence of the indisposition of the editor, been delayed some days beyond the usual time; in order, however, to bring it up, the number for March 4, will be issued on Monday next.

The bill for the admission of Missouri into the Union, without the clause restricting slavery (embracing the amendments of the Senate) passed the House of Representatives on the 2d inst. by a majority of three votes only; an event entirely unexpected. Both Houses having now agreed to the bill in the above shape, it only wants the signature of the President to become a law.

DIED, in this city, after an illness of three months, on the 1st inst. Major DAVID WALKER, a representative in Congress from Kentucky.

Current notes of the neighbourhood, where subscribers reside are received in payment for subscriptions to this paper.